AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the present title with the following amended title:

A NETWORK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR MANAGING NETWORKS AND

IMPLEMENTING SERVICES ON THE NETWORKS USING RULES ~~AND INCLUDING AN~~

~~INFERENCE ENGINE~~

Please replace eight full paragraph appearing on page 4, lines 22 to 24 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 2 shows a network management system NMS associated with a network N. The network N includes network elements E_1, E_2... E_n which can be IP routers, asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) switches, etc. The network management layer communicates with the network N via a communication link C.